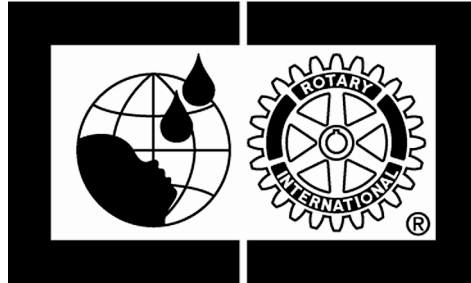


PolioPlus



Rotary International

**Polio Eradication Committee
PolioPlus**

The Objective of the polio eradication effort, or PolioPlus, internationally is to accomplish the complete eradication of polio worldwide.

The Current Goal to carry out this objective is to maintain a strong thrust to implement, fund, and staff National Immunization Days (NID's) in the remaining Polio endemic countries.

Rotary has partnered with The World Health Organization, The United Nations Children's Fund, and The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, various Governments, and Ministries of Health in countries where NID's are planned to accomplish such a formidable objective.

The US and International efforts are now focused on assembling teams of volunteers to staff NID's. These teams will be deployed in the few remaining countries that still have the polio virus active and where new cases of Polio are being diagnosed and reported. The major fund raising campaign has been successfully completed; however NID mobilization funding and staffing is still being pursued.

Results to Date show that a 99% reduction of polio cases has been accomplished world wide and only 4 remaining countries are considered polio-endemic—Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan. An NID was conducted in India in January, 2006 and more are planned.

At the District and Club levels the need for funds continues for financing the mobilization efforts of teams deployed to perform NID's. Some District Discretionary Funds are expected to be allocated toward this effort.

WHAT CAN ROTARY CLUBS DO?

At the Club level the Polio Eradication Program or PolioPlus Effort needs to include:

1. Being designated as a facet of the club's Rotary Foundation program and if possible assigning a member of the Foundation Committee to spearhead the club's PolioPlus effort.

2. Providing all club members with regular educational updates via club meetings, club bulletins, at the club's Foundation Events, and by special programs and speakers.

3. Maintaining a continuing awareness of the need for funds for implementing and mobilizing NID's and developing a program to collect funds for this purpose.

4. Encouraging club members to volunteer to participate in NID's. The District PolioPlus Committee will assist in matching volunteers with an NID program being planned.

5. In clubs where there is a member with the desire and time to commit to participating in a NID, the club might consider a club fundraising effort to assist in sending the member on an NID. Transportation and living costs are normally born by participants.

6. Maintaining a strong sense of pride and accomplishment with all members for being participants in an extremely powerful and successful worldwide humanitarian effort.

INFORMATION SOURCES FOR CLUBS AND CLUB MEMBERS:

Rotary International Website. The PolioPlus section on the RI website contains a large volume of detailed information and is updated periodically. It is a highly recommended information source.

<http://www.rotary.org/foundation/polioplus/index.htm>.

Rotarian Magazine. Many issues have articles or news items regarding Polio Plus. The clubs Foundation or Polio Plus designee should collect these articles and pass information on to the club members. Remember, not every club member will have read the entire magazine. So having the Foundation Chair give a brief PolioPlus updated from time to time is a recommended Rotary education technique.

District 5190, PolioPlus Committee Chairperson:

The contact information for the current PolioPlus Committee Chairperson is located on the Rotary District 5190 web site at the link below.

<http://www.rotarydistrict5190.org/foundationpe.asp>